

Speak Out Now! at AC Transit 11/11/2024

Pandemic Run Times are Still Here?

For many of the lines, the current run times were first introduced during the pandemic. But the run times haven't really changed since then. How does this make any sense?

During the pandemic there were hardly any riders. There were less cars on the road. There were even less delivery trucks. And there was hardly any construction. But now all of this has changed. The passengers are back. There is frequent construction, and delivery vehicles are everywhere, often double parked and clogging up the lanes. Is it any surprise we rarely have enough time, and we are constantly running into our breaks? The pandemic was declared over a long time ago. These pandemic run times have to end too.

Time to Have Each Other's Back?

The run times are constantly making us late. When drivers complain about the run times, management does nothing. When the drivers committee complains about the run times, management does nothing. And when passengers complain about the run times, management does nothing.

Management is leaving drivers with no choice. We shouldn't be missing our recovery time ever. These are our breaks and we have the right to take them. So, that is exactly what we should do. We know that if we were to do this, we would be late way more often. The driver behind us would likely catch up to us. But if we get each other's back, we could do this together, and we could all take our breaks. And if management doesn't like it, they can change the run times or put more busses on the roads. They created the problem, so let them deal with it.

New Hires = More Buses on the Road

Management wants us to think it is too hard to keep the new hires. No surprise there — the working conditions for new hires, along with the low pay, is enough of a reason for new hires not to last very long, and to look for a better job elsewhere.

But we know that not all the new hires are leaving. And so there should be new buses to add to the busiest lines. This would help with the short run times because there would be more buses to pick up the passengers, and the loading times could be shorter. But this isn't happening? Where are all the new hires?

The Elections are Over ... Now What?

Trump has now been re-elected, and if we are to believe the threats of the last months, there are likely some big changes coming. There are members of our communities, including people we work with, who could be targeted. Racist and anti-immigrant attitudes were fueled by Trump's campaign. Programs that many people depend on could be defunded — essential programs, like healthcare, public education, social security and others.

But these programs and our basic rights were not handed to us. They were won through the efforts and mobilization of working people. There is no reason to tolerate any attacks on individuals or the rights we have today. We fought back before and we can do it again.



**We do the work to make society run.
We need to organize!
Get in touch with us!**



**Upcoming Discussion:
Their Elections are Over,
Our Future Is Up to Us**

Henry Ramsey Jr. Center
2939 Ellis Street, Berkeley



Sunday November 17th @ 4 pm



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